I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV781674888US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: February 7, 2006

Signature: (Marco Jimenez)

Docket No.: 491442011620

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE .

In re CIP Patent Application of: Bruce Gregory WARREN et al.

Confirmation No.: 1394

Brace Gregory Writaday et al

Application No.: 10/617,148

Examiner: Kevin D. Mew

Filed: July10, 2003

Art Unit: 2664

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR

SWITCHING FIBRE CHANNEL ARBITRATED LOOP SYSTEMS

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2005, for which a response was due on January 17, 2006, and for which a one-month extension of time is requested to extend the time for response from January 17, 2006, to February 17, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Application No.: 10/617,148 2 Docket No.: 491442011620

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

SPECIFICATION

X There are no amendments to the specification.

CLAIMS

There are no amendments to the claims.

X A complete listing of all claims ever present in this case in ascending order with status identifier is presented in a separate section.